
Title: Book of Fellowship 3

Author: Batlin of Britain

After a long moment,
Lord British replied.
"Batlin, thou dost know
the meaning of
perseverance. I care not
for what thy Fellowship
dost wish of
me and I care even less
for what thy Fellowship
would seek to
do for me. But if thy
Fellowship would seek to
serve the
subjects of my land then
my support is
unequivocal."
Thus was born The
Fellowship.

viii. The Value of
Virtues and the Virtue of
Values
In creating the Fellowship
philosophy I had no
intention of cobbling
together a collection of
platitudes that
would be presumptuously
intended as a replacement
of the
Eight Virtues of The
Avatar. I knew there
would be those
who would accuse me of
doing just that, no
matter what
philosophy I developed! I
hereby wish to state
that The
Fellowship fully supports
the Eight Virtues of the
Avatar, and
as one who has
endeavored to follow their
example I can
personally assure thee of
their immeasurable worth.

But as one who has
followed the Eight
Virtues, I
know whereof I speak
when I say that it is
impossible to
perfectly live up to them.

Even the Avatar was
unable to do
so continuously and
consistently. Can anyone
say that they
have been honest every
moment of every day of
their lives?

Can anyone say that they
are always compassionate,
valorous,
just, sacrificing,
honorable, humble or
spiritual at all times?
The philosophy of the
Eight Virtues does little
more than
emphasize our own
personal deficiencies.

I
have met many
adherents to the ways
of the Virtues who are
racked with
guilt over what they
perceive to be their
spiritual failures, for
that is what the Virtues
are based upon. Having
been shown
our weaknesses, now is
the time to strengthen
them. The
philosophy of The
Fellowship has been
created to eradicate
the failures from one's
life. It is a philosophy
based upon
success and it enhances
everything that has come
before it.
The Fellowship philosophy
can be expressed as
three values
derived from the personal
experiences of my life.

They are

known as The Triad of
Inner Strength

ix. The Triad of Inner
Strength

The Triad of Inner
Strength is a rigorous
mental discipline. It
takes concentrated effort
to apply this triad of
values to thy
life. But in doing so thou
will see a change in thy
life so
significant that thou shalt
no longer be able to look
at the
world in the same way
again.

The first value of The
Triad Of Inner Strength
is
expressed as "Strive For
Unity." People apply this
value to
their lives by working
together to achieve that
which shall
benefit everyone in a
state of mutual
cooperation.

We have
seen by the parable of
"The Old Man and the
Bandits" how
Unity is essential. If we
are not working together
then we are
certainly working against
each other.

The second value of The
Triad Of Inner Strength
is
expressed as "Trust Thy
Brother." People apply
this value to
their lives by dealing with
others without accusations
or
suspensions that limit
others and themselves.

We have seen by
the parable of "The Two
Brothers and the
Trickster" just how
vulnerable lack of Trust
makes on. Without Trust

we restrict
ourselves from that which
we wish to accomplish.
The third value of The
Triad Of Inner Strength
is
expressed as "Worthiness
Precedes Reward."

People
apply
this value to their lives
by placing a greater
emphasis on their
accomplishments rather
than on personal gain. We
have seen
by the parable of "The
Ratification of Wise Lord
British" that
one must not expect
something for nothing.
Blindly chasing
reward is a path that
leads nowhere.
x. The Philosophy of The
Fellowship
The scholarly name for
the Fellowship philosophy -
which I
did not personally coin -
is "sanguine cognition."
This is
merely an
important-sounding way of
saying "cheerful
knowledge," and that is as
accurate a description of
The
Fellowship philosophy as
any I can imagine.

As long as one maintains
his confidence and
hopefulness one is
continuously open to the
opportunities that
perpetually exist in life. I
firmly believe that, gentle
friend
and traveller, and thou
shouldst believe it as
well.
Without confidence, one
does not perceive the
world
correctly and hence one
misses opportunities. This

sad state of
"fevered" reason currently
holds the majority of the
population in its icy grip.

Such "fevered" persons
begin to adapt illusory
notions to their thinking
and entangle themselves in
twisted,
conflicting emotions which
reinforce their failures.
These sad
people become afraid of
themselves. They begin to
believe
that they will fail, and
this belief can become a
self-fulfilling
prophecy.

Such a fevered person,
whether he realizes it or
not,
desperately needs to
recognize that the world
is not a tangled
knot of failure. The
entire process of thought
needs to be
permanently fixed to a
confident nature. Such a
person needs
to "find the best in
himself," and accept his
basic worth. This
is rarely an easy task. It
requires a reflection upon
one's self
that can be emotionally
painful.

But as we say in
The
Fellowship, "Sometimes one
must face harm in order
to find
healing." Upon achieving
Recognition one will follow
his
own inner voice of reason
that will guide him
through life
and help him avoid failure.
One of the most difficult
things to accept is how
reliant we are upon
others. We fear the

rejection, the real or
imagined hidden motives,
and the potential deceit
of others.

Accepting our inevitable
reliance upon others as
an integral
part of our role in this
world requires the
courage to walk on
fire.

To achieve the recognition
necessary to break free
of
the fever, one must
dedicate every fibre of
being to
accomplishing that end.
We of The Fellowship
travel that
path, and I extend my
invitation to thee, gentle
friend and
traveller, to join us.
Together we shall reach
our destination.